

Close Family - source # 6
SULLIVAN TOWNSHIP.

HENRY M. CLOSE was born in Connecticut, December 26, 1785, and married Eliza Knapp in New York, residing there until the time of her death. She was the mother of two children, who also died in New York. Then he married Mary Moe, who died October 5, 1849. In 1817 he came to Ohio, and settled in Sullivan township, Ashland county, on the farm now owned by Stephen Coats. He was the first justice of the peace of that township, and held the office for several years. He was a member of the Congregational church, and in politics he was an old-line Whig. August 10, 1846, he died. His second wife was the mother of eight children, five of whom are living: Esther, wife of Pierce C. Granis, of Williams county, Ohio; Henry M., who married Betsey McConnell; Benjamin, who married Elzina Dyer, afterward married Harriet L. Brown, and lives in Illinois; Susan, wife of George W. Houghton; and Roderick, who married Rosetta Mann, and lives in Ashland county, Ohio.

RODERICK M. CLOSE was born in Ashland county, Ohio, on the old homestead, where he now resides. He is engaged in farming and stock-raising, and deals largely in blooded stock; he is also a breeder and extensive shipper of fancy fowls. For seven years he taught school, and has held the office of trustee of Sullivan township several years, and been justice of the peace one term. In politics he is a Greenbacker, and is one of the three who first voted that ticket in Ashland county. In 1860, he married Rosetta Mann, and is the father of three children: Esther A., Rosetta D., and Henry M.

BERNARD HOLBROOK was born in Vermont in 1798, and, in the same State, married Sallie H. Millet, who died in 1863. In 1833, he came to Ohio, and settled on the farm he now occupies, where he is engaged in farming. In politics, he was an old-line Whig; and is highly respected in the community in which he lives. He is the father of four children: Abner, Franklin, Charlotte and Clinton, Franklin being the only one now living.

WILSON WHITCOMB was born in Brattleborough, Vermont, in 1799, came to Ohio in 1832, and settled in Sullivan township, Ashland county, on the farm now owned by W. W. Whitcomb. He was a blacksmith by trade, and built a shop on his farm, and followed his trade in connection with farming nearly all his life; his was for many years the only blacksmith shop within a radius of twenty miles. In politics he was an old-line Whig. He married Olive Rugg, of Vermont, who died on December 4, 1853. He then married Betsey Davis, of Vermont, who died June 10, 1871. He died in 1875. He was the father of six children: Clarissa, wife of L. J. Fairchild, afterward wife of Alonzo Doolittle, of Ashland county; Horace N., who married Jane A. Toms, and lives in Ashland county; David R., who married Hattie N. Chase, and lives in Cleveland; Oren J., who married Susan Crissinger, and lives in Michigan; Minnie P., deceased, who was the wife of A.

L. Firman, of Oberlin, Ohio; and Willie W., who married Rose Wirts, and lives in Ashland county, Ohio.

HORACE N. WHITCOMB was born in Vermont, in 1824, and came to Ohio with his father, where he received a common school education. In 1844 he married Jane A. Toms, and has been engaged in farming. He has been school director several years, and takes a deep interest in educational matters. He has held the office of township trustee two years, and was district clerk twenty one years. He is a member and one of the trustees of the Baptist church, and contributes liberally to its support. He is a highly respected member of society, and in politics is Republican. In 1864 he enlisted in company E, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Ohio volunteer infantry, under Captain J. R. Sanford. He was a non-commissioned officer, and was discharged July 17, 1865. He is the father of four children, viz: Lottie, wife of George McConnell, of Ashland county, Ohio; Curtiss L., who married Melvina Bailey, and lives in Ashland county; Eugene C., who lives in Cleveland, and Carrie M., wife of Samuel Bennett, of Ashland county, Ohio.

JOSEPH JOHNSON was born in Vermont in 1782, and married Lovina Blake in New York. She died in May, 1836, in Summit county, Ohio. She was the mother of twelve children. He then married Mrs. Osborn, in Portage county, Ohio, and, after her death, he married Betsheba Ogden, who now resides in Michigan. Mr. Johnson came to Ohio in 1822, and first settled in Portage county, where he remained twenty years, and then moved to Ashland county, and settled on the farm now owned by his grandson, Joseph Johnson. He was engaged in farming all his life, and was a member of the Baptist church. He took part in the war of 1812, and, in politics, was an old-line Whig until the Republican party was organized, when he became a Republican. He died in 1866. Mr. Johnson was the father of twelve children, only four of whom are living, viz: Ambrose B., who married Mary Van Wagnor; Nancy, who became the wife of William Sherwood, and afterwards wife of Sterling Acker; Lovina, wife of Gideon R. Bowker, of Dakota; and Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Chase, of Maryland.

AMBROSE B. JOHNSON was born in the State of New York in 1811, came to Ohio with his father, and received such an education as the district schools of that time afforded. He married Mary Van Wagnor, in Portage county, Ohio, and came to Ashland county in 1842, and settled on the farm on which he now lives, where he is engaged in farming and dairying. In politics he is a Republican. He is the father of eight children, viz: Joseph O., who married Ann E. Parker, and lives in Ashland county; Cyrus W., who married Sarah S. Ogden, and lives in Lorain county; Henrietta, wife of Marcus De Moss; Harriet, wife of Leonard A. Coles, afterwards wife of Isaac N. McHose; Mary E., formerly wife of Ransom Persons, now wife of Rufus De Moss; Garret A., who married Mary E. Baldwin; George W., who married Helen Drake; Charles E. who married Alice Hewitt.

JONAH DEMOSS was born in Bath county, Virginia,